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THE GEOLOGY OF SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA.

DR. HAROLD W. FAIRBANKS accuses me in a paper published in the last number of the JOURNAL OF GEOLOGY of ignoring him. I have written a "Sketch of the Geology of the San Francisco Peninsula" and in doing so I have "given my attention almost exclusively to a narrow field of complex geology and have failed to make use of the results of the work of *others*." "Others" is a modest euphemism for Dr. Harold W. Fairbanks, as appears from a succeeding statement to the effect, that, in my paper "there is a failure to give recognition to some contemporaneous and earlier work in the same general field," which statement is annotated by a reference to a paper of his published as a bulletin of the Geological Society bearing the date December 1894. If the charge applies to this particular paper it is baseless. My "Sketch" was forwarded for publication in June 1894, six months or more before the appearance of the bulletin which he insists should have been recognized. If it applies to earlier papers I must plead charitable motives in gently passing them over without comment. Justice, too, joined with mercy in barring me from quoting from his earlier papers statements which he has since repudiated, as for example, regarding the age of the granite of the Coast Ranges. It would have been scarcely fair to quote from himself views in which it now "seems to him there is no validity whatever." Dr. Fairbanks is fortunately not to be measured by his earlier papers, and the marked improvement in his later work, due in some measure to good University laboratory discipline, commands the respect and recognition which it deserves.

Evidently grieved at the supposed discourtesy with which he charges me, Dr. Fairbanks proceeds to subject my "Sketch" to a "friendly criticism." The friendliness is gratefully appreciated but the object of it is troubled with an uncanny curiosity as to

what manner of criticism he should deal out to his *enemy*, should that unfortunate be so foolish as to discuss Coast Range geology in print.

The review, in spite of the peculiar friendliness which animates it, and the voluminous *beliefs* and *opinions* with which it is inflated, contains some more serious elements of scientific criticism. Were my work in this field closed, I should feel it incumbent upon me to reply promptly. As my studies are, however, still in progress, so far as my limited time will permit, and as I hope on a future occasion to offer a further contribution to the geology of the central Coast Ranges I shall for the present defer the discussion of the points raised by my critic, and so, conceding nothing, avoid a controversy distasteful to me by reason of the personal feeling which vitiates its scientific worth.

ANDREW C. LAWSON.

BERKELEY, Feb. 26, 1897.